

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Diversified Scientific, Inc.

Int'l Application No.: PCT/US98/14776

Filed: 16 July 1998

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Title: METHOD FOR ACQUIRING, STORING AND ANALYZING CRYSTAL IMAGES

AMENDMENT UNDER RULES 66.3 AND 66.8

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Substitute pages 16, 16a, and 16b are being submitted containing claims 1-14. The status of these claims are as follows:

Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12 and 13 have been amended.

Claims 2, 3, 4, 10 and 14 have been canceled.

Claims 7 and 8 remain unchanged.

The principal amendment is to system claim 1 to clearly define over the art of record. Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 10 and 12 were held to lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Hartley et al. (U.S. 5,544,254).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clearly define over Hartley by incorporating a claim limitation of prior claims 3, 4 or 14. Prior claims 3, 4 and 14 each satisfying the requirements of PCT Articles 33(2)-(4). As such, it is believed that dependent claims 5 and 8 which depend therefrom similarly define an inventive step now. In view of the system of claim 1, it is submitted that utilizing a movable stage, as opposed to camera movement, represents an inventive step over the prior art of record.

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